

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

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L-03 NSAE-00 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 COME-00 EB-08

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INSE-00 VO-03 CA-01 HA-05 CTME-00 TRSE-00 JUSE-00

MCT-01 /077 W

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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9400

INFO ALL USCONS MEXICO POUCH

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SUBJECT: EXCELSIOR TREATMENT OF UNDOCUMENTED WORKERS

1. HALF FRONT PAGE EXCELSIOR APRIL 7 TAKEN UP BY FOUR ARTICLES BY ITS WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT FAUSTO FERNANDEZ PONTE. FOLLOWING IS BRIEF SUMMARY, IN DESCENDING ORDER OF TENDENTIOUSNESS.

2. BANNER HEADLINE STATES KU KLUX KLAN CAPTURES AND KIDNAPS CHICANOS AND BRACEROS. ACCORDING TO HERMAN BACA, DIRECTOR OF SAN DIEGO-BASED COMMITTEE ON CHICANO RIGHTS, KKK PATROLS WEARING SHIRTS INSCRIBED "WHITE POWER" ARE CONTINUING TO PATROL SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA-MEXICO BORDER. AGAIN ACCORDING TO BACA, WHITE POWER GROUP DELIVERED A "MEXICAN" TO BORDER PATROL NIGHT OF APRIL 4 AT SAN ONOFRE, CALIFORNIA, ALTHOUGH HE HAD PREVIOUSLY SHOWN KKK DOCUMENTS TO PROVE HE WAS LEGALLY ADMITTED TO US; BORDER PATROL SAID TO HAVE THANKED KLAN MEMBERS FOR THEIR CO-OPERATION, AND RELEASED SUBJECT. FERNANDEZ SAYS BACA TO BE RECEIVED ON APRIL 10 BY SENATORS CRANSTON AND KENNEDY, UNCLASSIFIED

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TO DESCRIBE CONTINUING KLAN ACTIVITY.

3. IN ANOTHER ARTICLE, FERNANDEZ QUOTES INS COMMISSIONER CASTILLO AS HAVING TOLD HOUSE PERMANENT COMMITTEE ON DEMOGRAPHY (HEADED BY REPRESENTATIVE SCHEUER) THAT INS IS STOPPING FLOW OF MEXICAN UNDOCUMENTEDS, BUT THAT, MAKING A THREAT, CASTILLO ALSO SAID, "PROBLEM IS NOT THOSE WHO

ARRIVE, BUT THOSE WHO ARE HERE. THEY ARE THE ONES WE HAVE TO CONCENTRATE ON". FERNANDEZ CLAIMS "COMMISSIONER'S ARROGANCE COST HIM A REPRIMAND" FROM CHAIRMAN SCHEUER DURING TESTIMONY.

4. AGAIN, FERNANDEZ REPORTS MEETING THIS WEEKEND IN WASHINGTON OF LEGAL REPRESENTATIVES AND LEADERS OF THOUSANDS OF MEXICAN UNDOCUMENTED WORKERS TO ASK PRESIDENT CARTER TO RECOGNIZE THEIR RIGHTS AS WORKERS AND TO "STOP THE SYSTEMATIC POLICE TERRORISM OF WHICH THEY ARE VICTIMS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY". ORGANIZERS OF WASHINGTON MEETING ARE SAID TO BE "NATIONAL WORKERS PROJECT", WITH TIES TO A UNION MOVEMENT OF UNDOCUMENTED WORKERS IN MARICOPA COUNTY, ARIZONA. FERNANDEZ CLAIMS SOME OF PROJECT'S REPRESENTATIVES HAVE BEEN DETAINED, AND INS--WHICH HE MAKES VILLAIN OF HIS PIECE--IS TRYING TO DEPORT FIVE OF THEM TO MEXICO THROUGH NOGALES, ARIZONA ON APRIL 7. DIRECTOR OF "NATIONAL WORKERS PROJECT" SAID TO BE ONE JESUS ROMO, WHOM FERNANDEZ PONTE SAYS INTERVIEWED PERSONS IN WHITE HOUSE AND ON CAPITOL HILL. ROMO CITES ANNIE GUTIERREZ OF DOMESTIC COUNCIL AS HAVING SPOKEN WITH INS COMMISSIONER CASTILLO REGARDING "INTENSIFICATION OF TERROR PRACTICES OF 'LA MIGRA' IN LAST FEW WEEKS," IN ORDER TO AVOID THE MEETING IN AND NWP MARCH ON WASHINGTON THIS WEEKEND. MS. GUTIERREZ IS DESCRIBED AS DISAGREEING WITH THE TACTICS OF INS AND CASTILLO IN DEALING WITH UN-
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DOCUMENTED WORKERS BUT UP TO NOW IT SEEMS AS IF CASTILLO HAS WON, ACCORDING TO FERNANDEZ.

5. FINAL ARTICLE FOR APRIL 7 IS AGAIN BASED ON TESTIMONY OF US ECONOMISTS AND SOCIOLOGISTS BEFORE HOUSE PERMANENT COMMITTEE ON DEMOGRAPHY. AMONG NAMES MENTIONED AS WITNESSES WERE VERNON BRIGGS, MICHAEL PIORE, MARY POWERS, AND LEONARDO ESTRADA. LEAD ATTRIBUTES TO WITNESSES (COLLECTIVELY) VIEWPOINT THAT POPULATION INCREASE AND SLOW GROWTH OF MEXICAN ECONOMY CONSTITUTE "A TIME BOMB THAT CAN GO OFF AT ANY TIME BECAUSE OF ANY SMALL SPARK", ESPECIALLY WHEN THEY ARE GUERRILLA SPARKS IN OAXACA AND VERACRUZ. (FERNANDEZ PONTE, APPARENTLY ON HIS OWN INITIATIVE, CONNECTS MENTION OF MOVEMENT IN OAXACA WITH ARTICLE REGARDING GUERRILLA ACTIVITY IN TEXAS MONTHLY MAGAZINE FOR MARCH 1978.

6. IN EXCELSIOR FOR APRIL 6, FERNANDEZ PONTE AGAIN MADE HEADLINES WITH REPORT THAT CESAR CHAVEZ, LEADER OF UNITED FARM WORKERS, HAD MADE AN EXTRAORDINARY POLITICAL TURN-ABOUT AND COME OUT AGAINST CARTER PLAN FOR UNDOCUMENTED WORKERS. CHAVEZ AND UFW BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORTEDLY

CALLED INTER ALIA FOR ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO SOURCE COUNTRIES OF UNDOCUMENTEDS, FOR "TOTAL AMNESTY TO ALL UNDOCUMENTED WORKERS", FOR INCREASED IMMIGRATION QUOTAS FOR MEXICO, AND DECLARED THEMSELVES AGAINST SANCTIONS FOR EMPLOYERS OF UNDOCUMENTEDS. ACCORDING TO ARTICLE, CHAVEZ HAD IN EFFECT DUCKED TAKING A POSITION ON CARTER ADMINISTRATION MEASURES LAST AUGUST, BUT NOW LINED UP WITH HIS UNION SQUARELY AGAINST THESE MEASURES.

7. IN MATCHING APRIL 7 EDITORIAL TO FRONT-PAGE ARTICLES, EXCELSIOR EDITORIALIZES ON "PERMANENT HARRASSMENT AND PLANNED GENOCIDE" OF WHICH CHICANOS AND MEXICANS ARE VICTIMS IN US. AMONG EVIDENCE IS "FREQUENT KIDNAPPING" OF MEXICANS BY PERMANENT KKK PATROLS AND DISAPPEARANCES OF

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PERSONS. DESPITE FREQUENT STATEMENTS BY FEDERAL AUTHORITIES PRESUMABLY WATCHING OVER BORDER AREAS, FACT IS THAT INS NOT ONLY TOLERATES BUT AIDS SUCH VIOLATIONS". EDITORIAL STATES THAT BORDER AREA IS CHARACTERIZED BY A "CLIMATE OF TERROR", AND THAT MEXICAN COMMUNITY AND AMERICAN COMMUNITY OF MEXICAN ORIGIN SUFFER PERSECUTIONS THAT REVIVE THE BLACKEST ERA OF SOUTHERN RACISM, AND EVEN MAKE ECHOES OF SLAVERY RESOUND.

8. VIRTUALLY NO OTHER MEXICAN PUBLICATION REPORTED ON ANY OF THESE EVENTS. WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY GUIDANCE ON HOW THESE REPORTS SHOULD BE TREATED, AND ANYTHING THAT WOULD PUT THEM INTO PERSPECTIVE. THOMPSON

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